

Appln. No. 10/660,543
Amendment Dated October 14, 2004
Reply to Office action of September 9, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An apparatus for measuring the relative position of a movable object, said apparatus comprising:
a member movable along a path corresponding to the position of the object;
a plurality of spaced electrical contacts insulated from one another and positioned along said path;
means operatively connected to said plurality of contacts for storing a corresponding plurality of preset angular position measurement data at a corresponding plurality of memory locations, each of said position measurement data stored respectively in said plurality of memory locations being respectively associated with one of said plurality of contacts along said path; and
output means operatively connected to said data storing means;
said movable member being effective when in engagement with said one of said contacts to cause the data stored in the one of said memory locations associated with operatively connected to said one of said contacts to be applied to said output means.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The apparatus of Claim 1, in which said output means is a display device.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The apparatus of Claim 1, in which said output means is a CPU.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The apparatus of Claim 1, in which said contacts are arranged in an arcuate path.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The apparatus of Claim 4, in which said movable member is connected at one of its ends to a voltage source and its other free end is movable along said arcuate path to make electrical contact with one of said contacts.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The apparatus of Claim 1, in which said contacts are arranged in a rectilinear path.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The apparatus of Claim 6, in which said member is movable axially along said rectilinear path for making contact with aligned pairs of said contacts at each of its ends.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The apparatus of Claim 1, in which said data-storing means is a ROM.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising a voltage source, said member being effective when in electrical engagement with one of said contacts to place an associated one of said memory locations in a circuit arrangement with said voltage source.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The apparatus of Claim 9, in which said output means is a display device.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The apparatus of Claim 9, in which said output means is a CPU.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The apparatus of Claim 9, in which said contacts are arranged in an arcuate path.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The apparatus of Claim 12, in which said movable member is connected to said voltage source and its other free end is movable along said arcuate path to make electrical contact with one of said contacts.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The apparatus of Claim 9, in which said contacts are arranged in a rectilinear path.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The apparatus of Claim 14, in which said member is movable axially along said rectilinear path for making contact with aligned pairs of said contacts at its ends.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The apparatus of Claim 9, in which said data-storing means is a ROM.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A method for determining the relative position of a movable object, said method comprising the steps of:

arranging a plurality of fixed, spaced and insulated electrical contacts along a path;

moving a member along said path by an amount representative of the relative movement of the object, thereby causing said movable member to make electrical contact with one of said contacts;

storing respectively a corresponding plurality of preset position data in a plurality of data-storing locations in a memory, ~~the position data stored in each of said data-storing locations being respectively associated with the position of one of said plurality of contacts; and~~

causing the measurement position data from stored in the one of said memory
data-storing locations associated with the said one of said plurality of contacts
then engaged-contacted by said movable member to be applied to an output
device.